

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-10

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INFO USMISSION NATO

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0562

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: PUBLIC PRESENTATION PAPER

REF: STATE 277369 (DTG 222117Z NOV 75)

1. WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE TREATMENT OF EUROPEAN
ARMAMENTS REDUCTIONS IN THE PRESENT TEXT OF THE PUBLIC
PRESENTATION PAPER IN PARAGRAPH III (I).

2. THE PRESENT WORDING OF THIS PARAGRAPH CONTAINS THE
CATEGORICAL STATEMENT QUOTE THAT THE INCLUSION OF
WESTERN EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS IN REDUCTIONS IS NOT ACCEPT-
ABLE TO THE ALLIANCE UNQUOTE. IF RETAINED IN ITS PRESENT FORMULATION,

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THIS STATEMENT CAN AND DOUBTLESS WILL BE INTERPRETED BY WESTERN

EUROPEAN OFFICIALS DEALING WITH THE PRESS AND BY JOURNALISTS AS
REFERRING TO BOTH PHASE I AND PHASE II OF THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS.

3. WE CONSIDER IT ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL, IF THE OVERALL
WESTERN NEGOTIATING APPROACH, NOT ONLY PHASING, BUT
PARTICULARLY THE COMMON CEILING, IS TO RETAIN MINIMUM
NEGOTIABILITY, THAT ALLIED NEGOTIATORS NOT REPEAT NOT
TELL THE EAST THAT THE NON-US WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS
ARE NOT WILLING UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES TO ACCEPT
ARMAMENT REDUCTIONS OR LIMITATIONS IN PHASE II AS WELL
AS IN PHASE I. EARLY REVELATION OF THIS POINT WOULD
IN ADDITION JEOPARDIZE THE CHANCE OF AN EARLY SOVIET
RESPONSE ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE AUGMENTED WESTERN REDUC-
TION APPROACH. STATEMENTS TO THIS EFFECT BY WESTERN
OFFICIALS IN CAPITALS WOULD HAVE THE SAME DAMAGING EFFECT
AS STATEMENTS BY WESTERN NEGOTIATORS.

4. WE THEREFORE THINK IT ESSENTIAL THAT, PRIOR TO FINAL APPROVAL,
THIS SECTION OF THE PUBLIC PRESENTATION PAPER BE REWORDED TO REFLECT
THE POINT MADE IN PARA 9 OF STATE 277369. A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE
WORDING FOR THE FIRST SENTENCE OF SECTION III(I) MIGHT BE AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE: REDUCTION OF NON-US ALLIED NUCLEAR DELIVERY
SYSTEMS OR OF OTHER NON-US NATO ARMAMENTS IS NOT PART OF
THE WESTERN PROPOSAL. UNQUOTE.

5. WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO A CONTINGENCY STATEMENT
AUTHORIZING WESTERN PRESS SPOKESMEN TO STATE, IF
EXPLICITLY ASKED ABOUT WESTERN EUROPEAN ARMAMENT REDUCTIONS
OR LIMITATIONS IN A PHASE II AGREEMENT, THAT DURING
NEGOTIATION OF A PHASE I AGREEMENT, WESTERN GOVERNMENTS
ARE NOT PREPARED TO MAKE ANY STATEMENTS ABOUT COMMITMENTS
TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN PHASE II. NOR WOULD WE OBJECT IN ORDER
TO MEET UK POINT, TO A STATEMENT FOR
CONTINGENCY USE REGARDING WESTERN REJECTION OF NON-US
ARMAMENTS LIMITATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPTION 3
PROPOSAL. BUT, TO AVOID PREMATURE IMPACT ON THE NEGOTIATIONS,
THIS STATEMENT SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED FOR USE ONLY
AFTER THE POINT HAS BEEN MADE TO THE EAST BY ALLIED NEGOTIATORS
IN VIENNA. THE FORMULATION SHOULD MAKE
CLEAR THAT THE ANSWER REJECTING LIMITATIONS OF NON-US
ALLIED ARMAMENTS IS MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE
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OPTION 3 PROPOSAL AND THE SPC PUBLIC PRESENTATION SHOULD
REFLECT A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT WESTERN SPOKESMEN WOULD
USE THE SAME DISCLAIMER AS ABOVE IF ASKED ABOUT LIMITATIONS
IN PHASE II. RESOR

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